

AUSTIN MOTOR SHOP STEWARDS.

===== The =====
REPORT
=====

OF THE RECENT VISIT OF
BRO. FRANK KEY
TO
RUSSIA

AT THE INVITATION OF MOSCOW TRADES
COUNCIL,

April 27th - May 16th, 1950

*Edited by the Shop Stewards' Committee, comprising
U., Transport & General Workers Union,
National Union of Vehicle Builders, Wood Cutting
Joiners, Pattern Maker, Foundry Workers, Boiler
Makers, A.S.W. & E.T.U.*

PRICE 3d.

Printed by H. J. H. Printing Works, Church Lane, Halesowen.

Owing to the confusion caused by numerous misleading and inaccurate statements in certain daily newspapers in respect of the invitation from Moscow Trades Council to Austin workers to send a delegate to Moscow the Executive Committee of Austin shop stewards' movement were instructed by the Joint Shop Stewards to collect the whole of the data, correspondence, etc., and present it in printed form to the rank-and-file trade unionists at the works.

This decision is the result of an earnest desire to iron out the controversy which commenced when we accepted the invitation.

These are the ungarnished facts, and copies of the correspondence may be seen at any time on application to a member of the Works Committee.

On March 3, the following letter was sent from an organisation known as the British-Soviet Society to the Secretary of Austin Shop Stewards' Committee.

3rd March, 1950.

The Secretary, Shop Stewards' Committee,
Austin Motor Company,
Birmingham.

Dear Sir and Brother,

You will be glad to learn that the British-Soviet Friendship Society has been invited by Moscow Trades Council to send a delegation of British workers to attend the May Day Celebration in Moscow and to spend two weeks in the Soviet Union thereafter.

After discussion in our Trades Union Advisory Committee and National Council, it has been decided that this Delegation shall be composed of workers elected by their fellow workers on the job, thus ensuring that the Delegation will have a truly representative rank and file character. The number of places on the Delegation is limited in the case of England and Wales to 13 in all and we have distributed these 13 on a geographical and industrial basis to ensure that the most important parts of the country and the most important industries are represented on it.

I am now writing to you to invite your Shop Stewards' Committee to arrange for the election of a delegate, and I trust that you will accept this invitation. The procedure we should like to propose would be as follows: assuming that your Shop Stewards' Committee accepts the invitation, that the following steps would be taken:—

1. To explain the invitation at a mass meeting of the workers or at mass meetings of the workers in the establishments covered by your Committee.

2. At these meetings, after explaining the purpose of the Delegation, to call for nominations.
3. Then either to have a vote on the spot or better still to have a ballot through the factories to decide on the delegate to go to the Soviet Union.
4. Simultaneously to collect the sum of £70, to be forwarded to this office by April 15th to cover travel costs and compensation for loss of wages of up to £20.

The Delegation will travel by air, leaving London on April 27th. They will return by air on about the 15th of May.

While we wish to leave the election of the delegate completely to the workers in your factories, we feel that it is necessary for us to have the right to endorse such nominations as are made since this delegation will be going under our auspices.

I am sure that you will agree that this Delegation gives us a splendid opportunity of obtaining first hand information on the situation in the Soviet Union and for each member of the Delegation to see how his opposite number lives. It will also be possible, of course, to investigate the possibilities of increased British-Soviet trade in which your industry may be interested. There are many other important questions which people are asking in this country to which the Delegation can endeavour to find the answers. And finally, the Delegation can take with it the good wishes of the workers who elected them to show that there is a great body of feeling in this country for friendship between the British and the Soviet peoples.

In connection with this last point, it would be highly desirable if the delegates were to take with them a message to the workers of Moscow signed by the workers in the establishments from which they come.

There is not a great deal of time in view of the fact that £70 must be collected, passports will probably have to be obtained and certainly visas obtained. We shall be responsible for helping the delegates to get their visas and passports through quickly. Would it be possible for you to regard this as an urgent matter requiring speedy attention? I should be glad to arrange for a representative of my Society to attend a meeting of your Stewards to answer any questions that they may wish. Further, at any mass meetings that are taking place or which may be called to discuss this question, I should also be glad to arrange for a representative of my Society to attend to explain.

Yours sincerely,

p.p. W. WAINWRIGHT, J.M.

General Secretary.

This letter was dealt with in Works Committee and was the subject of a long discussion. It was finally agreed to place the matter before a full body of shop stewards at the next meeting which was arranged for Monday, March 27th.

On March 19th a further communication was received from the British-Soviet Society.

18th March, 1950.

Mr. Albert Bennett,
Convenor, Austin's Shop Stewards' Committee,
121, Kemberton Road,
Weoley Castle, Birmingham.

Dear Mr. Bennett,

As I have not yet heard whether your Shop Stewards' Committee has decided to accept our invitation to get a delegate elected to the Soviet Union for May Day, I am writing to ask whether you can let me have a reply by return.

You will appreciate that we cannot afford to wait indefinitely before a decision is reached. Time is passing and many things have to be attended to if this delegation is to be a success. In the absence of a definite decision from you early next week I am afraid we shall have no other option but to attempt, at this late hour, to obtain a delegate from some other establishment.

Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM WAINWRIGHT,

General Secretary.

On Monday, March 27th, in the presence of 76 shop stewards the British-Soviet Society letters were read and the matter was thrown open for discussion.

Mr. W. Wainwright, who is secretary of the Society, addressed the meeting and explained that the Austin delegate, if chosen, would travel with another 19 workers who would be selected on a geographical and industrial basis.

He was asked why the invitation had not been received through the T.U.C. He replied that the invitation had been sent to his Society who had decided to broaden the invitation to give the workers of Britain an opportunity of observing how their opposite numbers in the U.S.S.R. lived.

He added that the sole aim of his Society was to promote friendship between Britain and Russia.

Some of the Stewards voiced the opinion that the British-Soviet Society was an organisation proscribed by the Labour Party (which is true) and that acceptance would mean disloyalty to the Labour Party.

It is worthy of note that among the list of vice-presidents of the British-Soviet Society is the name of Sir William Lawther.

After a long discussion the motion "That this body of shop stewards accepts the principle of sending a delegate" (mover Bro. Grundy, seconder Bro. Bonner) was carried by 39 votes to 35.

It was later decided that the delegate should come from the floor of the shop and not necessarily be a shop steward. A sub-committee was set up to determine the most democratic and expeditious method of selecting a delegate.

It consisted of the following: Bro. McCarthy (T. and G.W.U.), Bro. Tedstone (T. and G.W.U.), Bro. Higgins (T. and G.W.U.), Bro. McHugh (N.U.V.B), Bro. Pedder (Patternmakers), Bro. Grundy, Bro. Lewis, Sister Johnson (A.E.U.) and Executive members.

The elected committee met to discuss the matter. The scheduled date for the delegation leaving Britain was April 27th (in time for Moscow May Day Celebrations) and it meant that there was insufficient time to organise a proper ballot which would have involved printing delays.

In view of this the sub-committee agreed to ask for nominations from the various sections of the works, i.e., north, south and west. An announcement was made in the press and stewards were asked to publicise the fact that any Austin worker who was a trade unionist had the right to be nominated.

The nominees were to assemble at a mass meeting opposite the Danilo cinema, the closing date and hour for nominations being 10.0 a.m.

The conflicting reports which appeared in the press caused a great deal of confusion in the minds of those, who if they had read the facts clearly and fully, would have been willing to co-operate with the committee.

Attempts to organise a final selection from the following: Bro. Varnom, Bro. Witton, Bro. Bonner, Bro. Dewsbury, Bro. Gardiner, Bro. N. Cooke, Bro. Haliday, Bro. Key, Bro. Grundy—all A.E.U.—Bro. Fletcher, N.U.V.B., and Bro. Marshall, Patternmakers, were undermined by subversive reports and the refusal of the cinema management to allow us to use the ground for a meeting. This reduced the final selection meeting to nearly a fiasco.

It was then realised that some immediate action was necessary if we were to carry out a decision which had been arrived at democratically. Therefore the invitation was transferred by the British-Soviet Society to the A.E.U. Thus it fell to the largest union at the works to elect a delegate from their own ranks.

The choice fell on Bro. Key who is known for his politically unbiased attitude and fearlessness in handling problems of his fellow trade unionists.

It is sincerely hoped that this summary of the events which immediately preceded Bro. Key's visit to Russia will assist readers in assessing the real facts of the situation.

Signed,—EXECUTIVE.

Chairman.	Convenor.	Secretary.
Bro. G. Varnom.	Bro. R. A. Etheridge.	Bro. McHugh.

WORKS COMMITTEE.

Bro. Delaney.	Bro. Tedstone.	Bro. Nickless.
Bro. Webster.	Bro. McCarthy.	
Bro. Walker.	Bro. Pedder.	Bro. Nester.
Bro. Wood.	Bro. Greenaway.	Bro. Holmes.

FOREWORD.

BEFORE telling of my experiences in the U.S.S.R., I want to thank all Austin workers who placed their confidence in me and supported the fund which made the visit possible.

It should be pointed out that I went to see life and conditions in the U.S.S.R. and any comparisons or contrasts with conditions in Britain are given to make this word picture clearer to the reader.

I met a number of people who could speak English and discovered that many of them had been to England and spoke very highly of our country and the friendliness of the British.

Their comparisons are not with Great Britain but with present-day Russia and pre-1917 Russia.

WHAT I SAW IN RUSSIA

by FRANK KEY (A.E.U.)

THE 20 trade unionists in the party which made the trip to the U.S.S.R. included four members of the Communist Party, three members of the Labour Party and 13 non-party men. We were drawn from factories, marine engineering works, textile mills, mines and carpenters' shops.

Two members of the party were Roman Catholics and they were especially interested in the place of religion in Russia.

The Scottish delegates brought with them a first edition of Robert Burns, beautifully embossed and bound, as a gift for Stalin.

Before leaving London we called a Press conference and it is worth while recording that I received more than a little attention as a result of the remarks which had been made by Mr. L. P. Lord.

The journey to Prague was uneventful and we were accommodated for the night in a workers' hostel. A special plane had been chartered to take us to Moscow but there was room for only 18 passengers.

A colleague and I were invited to travel to the Russian capital in a normal Russian passenger plane. We accepted with alacrity for I was anxious to see my first Russians.

There was a cosmopolitan crowd in the plane: a Soviet general, a peasant woman, a civilian who was obviously a V.I.P. and to our surprise an Australian also.

The Australian had been commissioned to exhibit his firm's textiles in Moscow and as this was his first trip to Russia you can imagine his relief at finding two companions who spoke the same language.

At last we touched down at Moscow airport. Several Russian trade unionists were waiting to greet us and after expressing their pleasure at meeting us they took us by private car to the hotel which was to be our headquarters.

From that point we were guests of Moscow Trades Council and no effort was spared to make the visit successful. Every facility was afforded us and a team of interpreters placed at our disposal.

Members of the delegation were asked to plan their own tour and we decided to travel from Moscow to Kiev, Soschi, Stalingrad and then back to the capital. This entailed a journey of 4,000 miles.

MAY DAY.

May Day in Moscow is a never-to-be-forgotten sight and we were honoured by the allocation of standing room in the Red Square.

The procession began at 10 a.m. and did not finish until 6 p.m. but we did not stay to see the final contingents pass.

First in the march were Red Army Massed Bands—tanks, guns and infantry stretching one hundred abreast across the huge Red Square. Supporting the Red Army were jet bombers of the Red Air Force. It was a most impressive spectacle which lasted for three-quarters of an hour.

Then came the workers' contingents. There were peasants from the Ukraine, dark-skinned natives from the East, engineering workers from industrial centres and miners from the regions of central Russia which are rich in mineral resources.

Children followed in national costume and next came contingents and tableaux representing every sport in the U.S.S.R. I shall never forget that march and it was more strongly impressed on my memory by the occasional glimpses I caught of Marshal Stalin taking the salute from his dais at Lenin's tomb.

THE OLD CITY.

We toured part of old Moscow and although old buildings still exist the rate of re-building is colossal. Since 1945 something like 6,000,000 metres of land have been covered with new buildings.

We saw a new university in course of construction which when completed will have places for 10,000 students (who receive wages whilst studying) and 2,000 professors, and were impressed by modern flats, partly completed, which were all equipped with electric light and central heating.

RELIGION.

Most of us were anxious to see evidence of religious activity in Russia and our chance came on the first Sunday we were in Moscow.

The service at the Russian Orthodox Church (which is as grand inside as an English cathedral) was attended by a fairly large congregation but it seemed to me that most of them were of peasant type.

The Church itself is rich in ornate emblems and altar decorations and after the service we were introduced to the Metropolitan Nicoli, a grand old gentleman whose office corresponds to an Archbishop in our country, who gave us all the information we sought.

He told us that the Russian Church is not, as commonly believed, State-subsidised, but is supported by the congregation. He assured us that there was complete freedom of religion in Russia and this view was borne out by the Roman Catholic members of our delegation who visited a Church of their own denomination for morning worship.

MUSEUMS.

We visited two museums, both of which were crammed with articles which had been presented to Marshal Stalin on the occasion of his seventieth birthday by workers from all over the world. They included bicycles, a scale model of the latest type of Russian locomotive, tapestries woven in wool and the most exquisite silver ware.

THE METRO.

The Metro is the Russian equivalent of the London underground railway and it operates in the city and the suburbs. The Russians claim that it is the finest underground in the world and I could understand their pride after having travelled on it.

In the Metro, science and the arts go hand in hand, for the stations, built in marble and glazed tiles, are relieved by bronze statues and wall plaques depicting workers engaged in various industries and sports.

Concealed lighting is employed cleverly and an atmosphere of cleanliness prevails. What of the service? Trains run every five minutes as a general rule but the service can be speeded up to one train every 105 seconds during peak-hour periods.

There is a double-track system in operation and I was interested to note that the first compartment of each train is reserved for invalids, expectant mothers and children, while smoking is prohibited both on the trains and in the stations.

TRADE UNIONS AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

Trade Unions have a great deal of power in the U.S.S.R. They CONTROL industry and 40 per cent. of the profits in any year are spent by the trade unions on social services—providing rest homes, hospitals, sanatoria, pensions, sick pay and maternity and death benefits.

When we visited the offices of the Trade Unions and Social Services (they have been combined since 1933) it was explained that shop stewards and full-time convenors are elected annually but full-time officials carry on for two years before standing for re-election.

Trade Union contributions are fixed at one per cent. of a workers' earnings and in each workshop a corner is set aside for meetings.

Each factory contains a palace of culture where films, concerts and plays can be staged and in most of them there are libraries, too. It was my experience to see a young girl reading a book by Jack London in English.

Polyclinics are an integral part of every factory and workers can get expert medical attention at any time of the day or night. I was interested to note that the clinical equipment and machinery in the hospitals I saw was in the main British-made.

Hospital doctors are available 24 hours a day although each doctor spends only four hours at the polyclinic. The rest of his time is occupied with lecturing or looking after private patients.

Private patients in Russia? Yes, and it is due to the fact that trade unionism is not compulsory although the number of non-trade unionists must be very small indeed.

What are the working hours of our Russian colleagues? In heavy industry they work a six-hour day and a six-day week. In light engineering, a seven-hour day and a six-day week. Do they work overtime? Yes, but it is not encouraged and it takes place only as a result of consultation between shop stewards and factory directors.

CALIBRE WORKS.

The workers at the Calibre Works are engaged in the manufacture of precision tools and gauges and we were able to chat to directors and workers and inspect the finished products.

The director is elected by a Ministry but, we were told, should he be inefficient or unjust in his dealings with the workers they can demand his dismissal and if their charges are substantiated then the director would have had it!

There is a night sanatoria at the Calibre Works where workers requiring treatment but wishing to carry on working are accommodated under expert medical attention.

What did I think of the goods turned out at the factory? Undoubtedly the precision tools and gauges are serviceable but in my opinion the craftsmanship is not quite up to our standards in finish and quality.

TULA MINES.

Work is much easier in Russian than British mines, I should say, due to the fact that the Russian mines are not so deep, the coal seams are thick and the pits are gas free.

Women were employed in driving electric trams which convey the coal to the shafts and that prompted some of us to ask questions about the status of women in the Soviet Union.

No doubt some of them work from necessity because pay varies according to ability but throughout Russia there is an intense desire to help the country repair the ravages of war and this appears to be the main incentive. And it must be remembered that EQUAL PAY is another attraction for women who have the necessary physique to work in heavy industries.

INCENTIVE SCHEMES.

Incentive schemes operate throughout Soviet industry. To explain their working let us take as an example one rouble and 100 per cent.

A maximum output of 100 per cent. is set for a coalminer. Up to 80 per cent. he is paid one rouble per unit. Output between 80 per cent. and 100 per cent. is paid for at the rate of two roubles per unit. Let us assume that the miner has a target of one hundred cwt. (100 per cent.) The first 80 cwt. fetches eighty roubles whereas an additional 20 cwt. will add 40 roubles.

If the miner hews 120 cwt. (120 per cent.) he will get in addition 20 cwt. at 3 roubles per cwt.—60 roubles—making a total of 180 roubles.

PENSIONS.

Workers in the Soviet Union qualify for pensions at an earlier age than in this country. Men get them at the age of 60 and women at the age of 55.

How much is the pension? It works out at half the average wages and if the man or woman continues working the pension is added to the weekly wage.

ENTERTAINMENT.

While in Moscow we saw opera, ballet, a circus, a football match (Dynamios v. Torpedoes) and a third dimensional film which provides depth as well as length and breadth, and is much more realistic.

The Bolshoi Opera House is a magnificent palace of entertainment. Its revolving stage is reputed to be the finest in the world and I accepted that after seeing the finale of the opera "Khovanschina" in which a huge building was destroyed by fire (lighting effects) on the stage.

Workers were much in evidence at the opera and ballet and I became increasingly aware of the fact that music, drama and the allied arts are of great importance to the average Russian.

One point worth mentioning also: "No smoking" notices are prominent in every enclosed public space—and they are observed!

SHOPS.

Shops in the Soviet capital are run by the State and, to make a comparison, they closely resemble the large chain stores and Co-ops. of our own big cities. They are very well stocked with food and goods of every description.

COST OF LIVING.

We had no Russian currency and it is difficult to assess the cost of living of the average Russian as compared with the average Briton. At the same time after visiting the homes of some Moscow workers I came to the conclusion that their general standard of living was a little lower than ours although their food was excellent in quality and quantity.

The houses were furnished in utilitarian fashion, yet each house I visited contained an ikon. Naturally you are wondering about the rents paid. These work out at approximately three per cent of earnings and the amount charged includes heat and light.

KIEV.

On May 5th we left Moscow by air for Kiev. The Ukraine suffered untold damage both by the Germans and the Russians who adopted the "scorched earth" policy and the damage in Kiev has to be seen to be believed.

Whole streets and huge shopping areas are now no more than mounds of rubble and yet everywhere we went in the city we found a burning desire to rebuild and a real confidence in the future. Indeed Kiev was pulsating with a new vigour and reconstruction in full swing.

In one park I saw a party of German prisoners-of-war. This surprised me as the Russian Press had only recently announced that the last of the German prisoners had been repatriated. I asked why the Germans were still in Russia and was told that they were Nazis serving sentences for war-time crimes and that they were being used to help repair the damage they had caused.

EDUCATION.

In some schools in Russia two-shift systems are being operated in order to cope with the overcrowding due to destruction during the war. In this way, despite the unavoidable shortage of accommodation, every child has at least four-and-a-half hours of tuition daily.

We met English-speaking pupils with whom we were able to converse and discovered that the curriculum for all schools as endorsed by the Ministry of Education is as follows: Russian language, maths., physics, chemistry, history, geography, astronomy and the choice of one foreign language—English and German. Of the two English was the more popular.

COLLECTIVE FARMS.

During our stay in Kiev we paid a visit to a collective farm. The manager and his wife were most hospitable and showed real pride in their livestock and land. It was explained that the farm had been completely destroyed during the war to prevent the Nazis making use of it.

When the war ended the manager had been installed in the farm which was re-stocked with eight cows, forty horses and eight pigs. Since then they have reared 200 horses, 570 pigs and 520 cows.

The land was in an excellent state of cultivation, and efficiency and cleanliness was the keynote everywhere. Here, as in the cities, a long-term planning policy operated.

Mechanical milkers were not immediately available but the existing stalls have been built to accommodate these up-to-date devices as soon as they can be obtained.

Farm workers were living in log houses of sturdy construction and insulated against the extreme weather conditions. The interiors were sparsely but comfortably furnished and I was surprised to find water and electricity supplies in these simple dwellings.

Education on the farm is as thorough as it is in the big cities and pupils attend primary school for seven years. They get the same opportunities of going on to the universities and it seemed to me that the general standard of education on the collective farms compares favourably with that in the large industries.

The manager and his wife were most helpful and tried their hardest to induce us to stay with them for the night, but owing to our programme this was impossible and with much regret we returned to the city.

SWEET FACTORY.

In the confectionery factory we visited, each worker, male and female, wore white overalls and every corner of the factory was scrupulously clean. The confectionery was untouched by hand and ultra modern machinery was employed in manufacturing the tempting delicacies.

The last evening in Kiev was spent at a workers' club listening to school choirs competing in a festival of music. It was a delightful climax to two crowded days.

SOSCHI.

Soschi is a holiday resort nestling on the Black Sea. Here I could appreciate fully the inestimable value of Soviet social services.

The resort consists entirely of workers' rest homes, hospitals and sanatoria—large modern structures with huge windows. Terraces and balconies overlook the glistening bay and every effort has been made to trap and utilise to the full the health-giving rays of the sun.

Each centre has its swimming pool or lido as well as shower baths and Turkish and medicinal baths. Many of the interiors are hand-painted and the skill of the decorators is truly remarkable.

Every Trade Union in the U.S.S.R. has a number of such homes to which it can send its workers for two or four weeks' holiday. The homes are also used by patients convalescing after illness and the duration of their stay is decided by the Medical Superintendent.

Sulphur and brine baths are provided for the treatment of rheumatism and other complaints of a similar nature, and annual government grants are made to the sanatoria for experimental research work.

Another feature of the work there is the use of volunteer patients who spend a month at the resort undergoing treatment for their particular complaint or infirmity. They return each year for observation on the success or failure of the treatment.

The workers' health services as I saw them at Soschi are a priceless asset to the Soviet people and I say in all sincerity that I would be proud to see the workers of Britain enjoying such a service.

STALINGRAD.

The clear air and holiday atmosphere of Soschi seems a long way removed from Stalingrad. One need hardly wonder why when it is remembered how near to complete annihilation the city was in 1942-43 at the peak of the Nazi onslaught.

And the war is still not over in Stalingrad. Its effects stare every inhabitant in the face every day. A few are still living in dug-outs while assisting in the rebuilding of their shattered homes, but they work with zeal and confidence for they know they will soon be accommodated in decent homes.

The city is little more than a shell, as bleak and barren as the rolling plain which surrounds it. Trams and buses are running, but a journey through the city reveals the same dreadful picture of burnt-out buildings, twisted girders, bricks, mortar and splintered woodwork all jumbled together in chaotic profusion.

Why do the people remain in Stalingrad? you ask. The city is now in the centre of a desolate plain and though once surrounded by beautiful woodlands the urgent task of reconstructing the city calls for the services of every man and woman.

We were invited to the city architect's office and here we saw a model of the Stalingrad of the future. It will be a tremendous task but the planners are confident that the zeal and diligence of the ordinary citizen will make short work of it.

TRACTOR WORKS.

Production methods at a Stalingrad tractor works interested us immensely, particularly in the foundry. Retorts and ladles are suspended on mechanical gantries and the operator's platform has complete mobility. This enables him to remain stationary while his platform moves in relation to the moulds. Production figures were not very high, but this was due to the fact that the factory had not been restarted until 1949.

This virtually completed our tour except for a visit to the Stalin motor works on our return to Moscow. This, however, requires little comment as it was similar in most respects to British factories laid out for line production.

I should, however, add that we visited the Kremlin, thus disproving the fallacy that it is inaccessible. It is not generally known, but the Kremlin, once the palace of the Tsars, is a town in itself with four Cathedrals and three Churches and is rich in historical relics. Here the new congress hall houses all meetings of the Supreme Soviet.

ELECTIONS.

Elections are secret and the one-party system is operated. Should the population reject a candidate they may vote against him. Only 30 per cent. of the adult population are members of the Communist Party, we were told.

Before I left Moscow I was presented with a silver cigarette case as a memento of my visit by M. Constinooff, a trade union leader and member of the Supreme Soviet.

As far as I was concerned the tour was a memorable one. Our delegation saw a great deal in a very short space of time in our trip of 9,000 miles, and I hope that the reader will recognise in my report the picture of Russia as I saw it.

One or two points in conclusion. I would like to stress the fervent desire for peace displayed by all the people I met. The progress of 25 years was ruthlessly destroyed by the Nazi invaders, and the Soviet workers feel that they don't want to rebuild only to have their work destroyed in another war.

I am waiting for the day when the workers of the world will realise that every man in the armed forces is fed, clothed and armed by the efforts of the workers.

When that happens they will cry "Halt" and force their countries to settle their differences around the conference table before—NOT AFTER—war. Then the enormous waste of wealth on armaments will be utilised in providing a better life for us all.

The Committee wish to express special thanks to Bro. N. Cooke, who compiled the report from the statements of Bro. Key to the Joint Shop Stewards meeting on Monday, 22nd May, 1950, and to the Secretary, Bro. McHugh, who reported the events leading up to the visit.

Photographs taken during the visit will be available at reasonable prices on application to the Secretary.